

Docket No. AUS920010954US1

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

**APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DELAYED ANSWERING OF MOBILE
TELEPHONES**

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10 An apparatus and method for delayed answering of
calls directed to mobile telephones are provided. With
the apparatus and method, a mobile telephone may be set
to a delayed answering mode which provides a brief delay
15 between answering of the call and actual conversation by
the called party. That is, the call may be answered, but
the attention of the called party is not required until
the elapse of a particular delay period. This delay
period allows the called party to gracefully discontinue
20 current involvement that is requiring the attention of
the called party so that the called party's attention can
then be provided to the calling party. The delayed
answering mode may be entered in any of a number of
different ways. For example, the mobile telephone may be
set to a delayed answering mode in response to a setting
directed by the user of the mobile telephone, based on an
identification of a calling party, based on a schedule of
events, based on a physical location of the user of the
mobile telephone, and the like.

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